

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

5 receiving audiovisual data from a desired transmission channel;
if said audiovisual data is not compressed according to a predetermined
format, compressing said received audiovisual data according to said
predetermined format;

10 storing, in a mass storage device and for a predefined period of time,
compressed audiovisual data received from said desired transmission channel;
and

15 in response to a user request, providing to said user said stored
compressed audiovisual data beginning with a portion of said stored
compressed audiovisual data having associated with it a first temporal
parameter.

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